MONTEREY NEWS

MAY 1982

Peace Rally in New York on June 21

A bus trip to a rally protesting nuclear weapons scheduled for June 12 in New York City is being organized by Bernie Kleban and Margaret White under the auspices of People for Peace in the Berkshires. Bernie sent the Monterey News some bits of information he picked up in New York about the coming event. They are as follows: Ed Koch, mayor of New York, has declared the day of the rally an official day of protest against nuclear war. A traffic jam of such huge proportions is expected that buses may be made to stop at the periphery of the city. People may have to ride to Central Park by subway or elevated trains. It is likely that the fare will be free. Hundreds of buses are expected from all over the eastern seaboard and from other parts of the U. S. Twelve hundred people are coming from Japan to participate in the rally. Chance are that it will be impossible to park a private car anywhere near Central Park in New York on the day of the rally.

More information on the rally may be found in an advertisement on page 13 of this issue.

Energy Audit on Town Buildings

The Town of Monterey recently participated in an Energy Audit Program for state schools and hospitals under which there was money allocated for energy audits for town buildings as well. Monterey was awarded a grant from the state to hire an engineer to do audits on three buildings in town: the old Fire Station, the Town Hall, and the Town Shed. The Selectmen accepted a bid from the Center for Ecological Technology to do the technical work. According to Al Silverstein at CET, the work will be done within the next two months. There is likely to be more state money for the energy conservation measures deemed necessary by the auditor.

Town Meeting, 1982

On May 1 townspeople assembled in the social room of the United Church of Christ for the annual town meeting. A budget of $589,355.00 was approved. Notable among discussions on the budget was an explanation of a $2,000 rise in vacation, sick and holiday pay based on the unexpected and extended illness of a member of the road crew. In addition there was an explanation of a $27,000 allotment for the Disposal Area, which marks the conversion of the Monterey Landfill to a sand and gravel resource, as well as the conversion of Monterey's garbage and brush disposal to a compaction/recycling operation. Questions were asked about dump hours, which will remain the same as stated in the April issue of the Monterey News, and about the present recycling operation, in reference to which it was recommended that recycling of paper and aluminum will still be economical, but recycling of glass will not. Credit was given by Jed Lipsky to Michele Miller for her efforts regarding the landfill and the recycling operation. (continued, page 5)

CATHOLIC CHURCHES
Masses Schedule

Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield
Saturday - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday - 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Immaculate Conception, Mill River
Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Worship and Regular Meetings

Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with childcare at same time in the Social Room. Choir rehearsal, Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., at the Bralliers'. Meditation and prayer, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. in the Social Room. All are invited. Prayer group, Thursdays, 7:45 p.m., at the home of Lucy Smith.

Penelope Young Hellman, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
Certified Family Therapist
is pleased to announce
the resumption of her
Psychotherapy Practice with a
Family Systems & Psychosynthesis Orientation
for
Individuals, Couples, & Families
at her new office
in
Hupi Woods
Monterey, MA 01245
528-1461

CHURCH NEWS

Peace Sabbath Celebrated May 30--Peace Sabbath will be observed on May 30. This religious festival is being celebrated by increasing numbers of the religious community through the nation. Peace Sabbath is an occasion for bringing the focus of faith on the concern for peace that is growing in the religious community. Five major peace organizations are sponsors of the Peace Sabbath. In addition, practically all national religious bodies are encouraging the celebration of this day for the weekend of May 28-31. Many churches and synagogues will highlight the cause of peace during the Peace Sabbath.

This celebration coincides with Pentecost and Memorial Day. Since Pentecost is a celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Monterey celebration will lift up the renewing activity of the Holy Spirit as it works in the Church to restore a sense of world vision and concern among God's people.

The Monterey Church with the celebration of Peace Sabbath invites all in the community to share in this call to all people of goodwill to renew their commitment to peace. The Morning Worship will be on Sunday, May 30, at 10:30 a.m.

Massachusetts Conference Annual Meeting--The annual meeting of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ will take place in Holyoke College on June 4-6. The delegates from Monterey will be Margery Janes, Jean Stowell, and Virgil Brallier.

The conference has many resolutions to deal with, most of them related to issues of justice and right relations among people. The conference is also dealing with priority issues having to deal with emphases in the year ahead. There will be an election of officers and acting on the budget.

Local Persons Elected by Berkshire Association--At the April meeting of the Berkshire Association of the United Church of Christ held in Dalton, a number of Monterey persons were elected to offices and committees. Raymond Ward is on the Executive Committee, Stewart Stowell is vice-moderator, Jean Stowell is on the Church and Laity Committee, Mary Ward is on the Church and Mission Committee and Virgil Brallier is on the Church and Leadership Committee.

A SACRED INNER TERRITORY

Virgil V. Brallier, minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

Recently a woman suffering from asthma was sent to me by her doctor, who recognized stress as a part of the problem. Our search was for the source of stress. She recognized times in her life in which she felt pressured to conform to the patterns of other people. Then, one day her situation came to her in an image: "I feel like there is an inner territory I have to protect all the time."

She saw this inner territory as very sacred. Yet she imaged this inner space as being surrounded with all kinds of jagged rocks piled high to keep out the "invaders." The asthma was seen as a physical reaction--an unconscious tightening up--as though to protect this sacred territory. She is now learning how to care for this precious inner place without using her energy in a battle-ready position.

Could it be that all of us share more with this woman than we might imagine? Does not each one of us have a sacred inner territory? And in the protection of this territory lie many important dramas. No teen-ager wrestling with parental authority would likely describe his/her turmoil in terms of a sacred inner place. But isn't that the issue? Few hurt, angry and bewildered married persons would locate a sacred inner place they discover they are trying to protect from their mate. But listen deeply to what is being said. Some sacred inner place is being threatened. Many political battles and intense economic bouts are related to some threatened dimly perceived inner space.

The real dilemma about this sacred inner territory is this: it is the part of ourselves we use to be intimate with others, yet it is also the part that must be protected with such great care. These two sides of the self often collide with each other. It is the very closeness of another, it is the desire and the fear regarding inviting another "in" that opens up this Pandora's box.

I wish for each person to learn more intimately the nature of this sacred territory. The presence of fear, anger or stress is a good sign that some inner space is being threatened. Have not we all experienced these feelings only later to see what triggered the feeling? As we learn to read our drama better it helps us keep track of what is going on in this sacred territory.

Suppose you should become more aware of this sacred inner territory, what might result? Would it not expand the horizons of your life, and reveal possibilities you never imagined before? This happens to many people. Intense energy resides in this inner space. Much of this woman's energy was being used for its protection even though she was unaware that such a "place" existed. Now that she is reading her drama better she is learning to employ her energy more profitably.

This sacred inner territory contains the very stuff that gives life meaning. When a person is dis-spirited, energy is down. Enthusiasm languishes. Life is a drudge. Restore the sense of one's worth and the energy flows again. This energy cannot be managed as mechanically as flipping an electric switch. But as we come to know this inner place the springs of motivation and energy are touched.

The glory and the tragedy of our humanity lie in how little we recognize our dramas. The glory is that vastly much more is happening in our lives than we see. The tragedy is that we may act as if nothing more is happening than we see. Daily I remind myself that the designs flowing in and through my life are much larger than my vision comprehends. So it is in all of us.

Can I define this sacred inner territory? No. Some call it God within. Others describe it as the Holy. Still others see it as the key to our humanity. Poets and seers of all ages point to something that in the end is indefinable. Yet this quality I celebrate in myself and in all others. From it flows a depth that makes us a mystery to ourselves. Within this sacred inner territory lies a perpetually springing-up source of renewal in persons and in all human societies.

YOUTH NEWS

Juniors

The girls went on a weekend camping trip at Camp Marion White in Richmond, MA, on the weekend of May 7, 8, and 9.

Brownies

Last week the girls went to Lois Ryder's house to make Mother's Day plant holders which they put plants in. The kindergarten children will come to the Girl Scout meeting to see what they're like.

Cub Scouts

Fred Vorck, a member of Den 2, won the district Pinewood Derby, so he will go on to the Council Pinewood Derby.

The boys planted marigolds for Mother's Day.

PeeWees

PeeWee baseball has begun with a combination of old and new faces. Don B. was surprised by the greatly improved catching and throwing skills of the team. Tasha, Peter, Johnny, Paul, Shawn, Kip, Josh, Bill, and Mark were all back. New faces were Frank, Mike, Keven, Mike O., and Meghan B.

Four games have been scheduled for Friday with Mill River. Others will be with Sheffield and Egremont.

NEWS FROM NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL

During the first part of May, all students in the school district took part in the district-wide testing program. These tests are designed to measure a child's achievement in the basic learning areas and will reflect how a child stands with other students in the district as well as on a national level. The results of the tests will be made available to all parents later when the corrected tests are returned.

The students of the district will be having experience and instruction through computer assistance in the near future. The elementary schools will be receiving three units. However, there will be a need to obtain a video or "read out" component for each unit. For these units we are seeking three 13", 15" or 19" functioning TVs that may be contributed to the elementary schools to be used with our computer units. Please contact Paul Langer at 229-8867 if you can help us.

Open Houses will be held in the elementary schools on the following dates:

New Marlborough Central — Thurs., May 13, 7-8 p.m.

Monterey Kindergarten — Fri., May 14, 7-8 p.m.

New officers elected to head up the New Marlborough-Monterey PTA at the April 13 meeting are Diane Storti, President; Yvonne Stephens, Vice-President; Peggy Theriot, Secretary; Margaret Ohman, Treasurer. A great deal of thanks is extended to the retiring officers for their contribution of time and guidance. Thanks to Judy Thompson, President; Yvonne Stephens, Vice-President; Peggy Theriot, Secretary; Stephanie Grotz, Treasurer.

Arbor Day was April 30. The children of New Marlborough Central School celebrated by planting a tree on the front lawn of the school. The event was sponsored by the fourth grade class and the flowering crab apple tree was donated by the Sheffield Garden and Flower Shop. Jim Law supervised the planting. Mr. O'Hara read an appropriate poem.

In a special observance of May Day, the graduating fourth grade class and the first graders, the youngest class, surprised each other with May Baskets. The children decorated the baskets and each contained a flower for planting.

Some of the reading groups in second grade have been working on choral verse.

The children at New Marlborough worked very hard on their Mother's Day projects. The Grade 1 students planted seeds and each child brought a plant home for Mom. The second graders hand painted flower or heart-shaped pins. The third grade made paper weights which they decorated themselves and at press time the Grade 4 project was still Top Secret.

Alice and Joel Schick, Monterey authors and illustrators of children's books, have gifted the second grade at NMC with Das Pronto for each child. Das Pronto is a self-hardening clay which has the same consistency when dried as kiln-fired clay. The Schicks are taking pictures of the second graders at work with the clay.

Town Meeting (continued)

The Town road crew and superintendent received raises in salary and a special credit from Selectman Jed Lipsky. In Lipsky's words, despite the fact that the crew was minus a man a good part of "one of the more severe snow winters," they did a "tremendous job and kept the budget shockingly low."

From available funds, $22,974 was appropriated for the construction and/or improvement of Town roads. Calling it a "one-shot deal," Finance Committee member Ray Ward explained that Monterey has a contract with the Department of Public Works for fiscal year 1982 to 1983. The Town borrows the money from itself, proves it was spent on Town roads, and the state reimburses us.

Next, $17,401 was appropriated to buy a 1982 diesel four-wheel-drive one-ton truck and plow for the Highway Department. The Town's 3/4-ton pickup broke down too often during the past winter and a heavier duty vehicle was said to be preferable; $10,000 will be taken from Revenue Sharing Funds and $7,401 will be raised and appropriated.

The Stabilization Fund was increased by $5,000. The previous balance was $32,061.

In a series of more or less standard items the next to last payment on the loan for the new fire engine was okayed, and various county agencies and Town funds were delegated sums.

A Town By-Law was amended to allow swimming at the present Town Beach, where, of course, there has for several years been quite a bit of swimming.

Considerable talk revolved around a resolution to encourage state and federal officials to take a stand against further nuclear armament. The Selectmen asked that they be allowed to sign the communication on behalf of the Town instead of signing as individuals. A change in wording effected that change in their relationship to the resolution. The phrase "instruct the Selectmen to sign a copy of the following resolution" was changed to read "to forward a copy . . . ."

It was during an exchange of views on the issue of nuclear war that emotions

Town Meeting (continued)

rose above the level of easy acquiesence which had pervaded the balance of the meeting. Even so, townspeople spoke their minds with scruple and probity. There was a nice equilibrium in evidence during the 1982 Town Meeting, undoubtedly owed in large part to what Reverend Virgil Brallier called the "fine level of care and performance" shown on all levels of Town Government. When the meeting ended a little after noon, townspeople walked out into the bright May sun with a renewed sense of the plenteous stability and abounding seemliness to be found in Monterey.

ENERGY NEWS

The quilt is lovely. We will be selling raffle tickets for this community effort, probably by the end of May. The people who have been working on the quilt are Eileen Clawson, Michele Miller, Ellen Pearson, Jeanne Randorf, instructor Leslie Scutellaro, Susan Sellew, Barbara Tryon, and Milly Walsh. We learned a lot about quilting and are proud of the results.

We have reviewed the engineers' report about the dam site in the center of town and will be making a decision on the recommendations in the report.

The bulletin board will be going up again soon--probably not in exactly the same spot but in the general vicinity.

On Thursday, June 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the Church social room, you will be able to hear your Monterey neighbors talk about their solar systems. Some of these people have made one and installed it themselves. Others have had them professionally built and installed.

Our annual auction will be Friday night, July 30, under the tent in Greene Park. If you have items to be picked up, call 528-4257.

GOULD FARM NEWS

On March 27 Bryan and Dale Tanner and their children, Jason, age four, and Sarah, seven months, came to make their home at the Farm. Bryan is Director of Maintenance. He grew up in Lee and for six years was a service man with the local Agway store. While there, he frequently worked on the Gould Farm heating systems, so he knew the situation here. He had been wanting a job that would keep him out of doors, at least part time, and with a residential group, so when the maintenance department here needed a leader, the two needs dovetailed. Dale, who is an L. P. N., lived in Lenox until the family moved here. They are a welcome addition to the Farm group.

Leslie and Ardelle Giles, with their children, Jim and Ann, arrived April 21. They will be living at the Little House, built in 1923 by Florence Scovill. Les has come to take charge of farming operations, as Alexander Drier and his family are leaving us. Les grew up on a farm in Rochester, New Hampshire. He has taught agriculture in a vocational high school and for two years was in the Peace Corps in Nepal and in Ethiopia. For three years he worked at the Schweitzer Center in Great Barrington and for another two years he was a milk inspector for the State of Massachusetts. He is interested in Gould Farm and, he says, glad to find himself working with people, as well as cows. Ardelle has her degree in Elementary Education and taught for four years in Bennington, Vermont. She has taught also in nursery school.

Jim is eleven and will be attending Mount Everett. Ann is five and came to the Gileses from Korea. She is going to the Patchwork Clown Nursery School, directed by Nancy Loder. Ardelle visited the Farm as a child with her father, the Rev. James Chase. She says this is like coming home. It is a happy event for Gould Farm to acquire these two new families at the same time.

Wini Ray came here from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, which has always been her home. Her mother teaches at Antioch. Wini had heard a lot about Gould Farm from the younger brother of Doug King, who was on the staff for several years, until he left recently to study in Denmark. Wini is finishing her third year at Antioch. She plans to be here for several months. Her chief interest in college is in the field of communications, especially video and dance. She wants to work with people and feels very much drawn to the Farm situation.

To the surprise of the maple syrup crew, the season, which started late, in mid-March, was an especially long one, lasting until mid-April. Those working with it, directed by Joe Burkholder, kept their fire going night and day. They ended, Joe reports, "tired but elated," with a total product of 1,019 quarts of syrup. Last year they made 1,059, the most ever.

--Rose McKee

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met April 21. There was a variety program and a baked goods sale. Proceeds were donated to the Massachusetts State Grange Educational Assistance Fund sponsored by the youth. Secretary W. Ray Ward was recognized in observance of National Secretaries' Week and was presented a small gift by Worthy Master John Losser from the members.

There is a Grange Week display at the Monterey Library in observance of National Grange Week, April 18-24. All organizations and residents are invited to look at our exhibit.

Grange #291 met May 5 when the third and fourth degree were conferred. David MacWhinnie conferred the fourth degree and Mary Wallace the third degree. Deputy Doris Sanders was present for her official visitation. Deputy Alicia Brazie was also present. Guests were also present from Williamstown, Worthington, Heart of Berkshire, Hinsdale Vectory, Stockbridge, West Stockbridge, Great Barrington and Umpachene. The raffle was drawn. A turkey donated by Adams Super Market was won by Marion Thomson; a Virginia ham donated by Price Chopper was won by Irene Lehou of Centerville; "cheer" and potatoes donated by Worthy Master were won by Debbie Weeknut of Thomaston and John Warner. A pillow donated by Amy Enoe was won by Robert Morise of Winsted.

The next meeting will be May 19; there will be a Music Program in charge of W. Ray Ward and Helen Schroeder.

--Mary Wallace
Lecturer

PERSONALS

Leslie and Vincent Scutellaro are the proud parents of a daughter, Dinah Rose, born April 14.

Margaret O'Connor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Denis O'Connor of Route 23, has been selected by the New Marlborough American Legion Auxiliary Post 350 to attend the 38th Annual Massachusetts Girls State to convene at Bridgewater State College, June 13 to 18.

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LADIES AID SOCIETY

Fifteen attended the April 1 meeting, at Marion Schneider's. Our president, Jean Stowell, reported that six school kits have been returned, filled. Ethel Warner promptly produced another. Mary Ward reported that one layette had been completed, and various layette items that would be sent along with it. Lightweight clothing and any sweaters for the spring clothing drive should be left at the church by April 25. A letter was read from Nuclear Weapon Freeze, which we had endorsed at our March meeting.

LADIES AID SOCIETY (continued)

Plans for the summer were mentioned but deferred to our next meeting. It was voted not to raise the dues ($1 a year), since it is possible to give money to the Society, and it is said we are the only organization in town that one can belong to for $1 a year.

A member maintained that in the little historic sketch published in the Monterey News several months ago, where I told of attending a meeting in which the regional Ladies Aid Society was disbanded, the Ladies Aid had been confused with another organization: The Western Massachusetts Association of Congregational Church Women's Societies. It met four times a year, each time in a different community. Marie Brallier and Grace Miner were members. I STAND CORRECTED, but puzzled as to why I was a delegate to an organization to which I did not belong. Our Ladies Aid is not a church society. It has its own constitution and bank accounts. Like Tennyson's brook, it goes on forever, and never changes.

Ladies Aid met May 6 at Lucy Smith's, 14 attending. Mary Ward reported that the clothing drive brought in 106 pounds of light clothing for Church World Service, as well as some heavy clothing she is taking to Pittsfield's Christian Center. Two complete layettes have been sent and various items kept for next year's layettes. The treasurer, Helen McKay, read her report and will reimburse Mary and Jean for what they paid for materials for the layettes--though not by check, for we no longer have a balance that will cover a checking account. We used to hold a fair every summer to make possible the little donations that we make. So we decided this year to try a cookie sale. The date was tentatively set for Saturday, July 3, on the library lawn from 9:00-11:30 a.m. Our June meeting may not be held at the usual date (first Thursday) as we would like to find a date possible for those who can never come on Thursdays. As June approaches inquire of any member, if you have not been notified. Alice Somers will be the hostess.

In honor of Mother's Day, we each told some memory of our mothers.

--Margery Janes

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Fire Company News

It's plain to see that our new firehouse is well underway. As I write (May 6) it was only a little over two weeks ago that we began digging. Now the foundation has been poured, and the deck is down on the west wing, which has meeting rooms, radio room, bathrooms, kitchen, etc. The outside walls of this part are framed and sheathed, and the interior partitions have been framed. Between my writing and your reading, the west wing roof trusses will have been raised and the roof deck and shingles nailed down.

The momentum is strong. Construction is going smoothly, the action is fast but never frantic. We've poured 200 yards of concrete and driven maybe 600 pounds of nails. Meanwhile, we set some 5,000 board feet of high quality local pine lumber on sticks to season so it will be ready for interior finish work when we are.

Some may wonder, How? How do they do it? The answer is "six." Six in the morning, six at night, and never fewer than six at once. (Well, it only took three to sticker the pine, but it was two nights' work for three, so that makes six.) There's been a run on carpenter belts at the local stores, and lots of the framing hammers look new. Along with the firehouse, builders are being built. Spirits run high at the site. Since we've never built a firehouse before, we don't know how to do it. This helps. We have to fall back on what we do know, which is how to approach a job, organize a plan and carry it out. We got our practice on steak roasts (don't forget the steak roast again in July) and gravity car races, not to mention fires, where you never know quite what to do until you get there. The most useful equipment to bring is thinking on your feet.

Don't take my word. Stop by and say hello. Have a look. Our volunteer labor saves on the cost of the project, but money is being spent even as it's saved. If you can contribute, please do. Your help is always welcome.

--Peter Murkett

Ray Tryon, floor joists, and the necklace on Lorain the Crane.

Voting Results

A total of 203 voters did their civic duty on this year's Town Meeting day, and the results were as follows:

For Moderator: Eugene O'Connell, 128; Robert F. Rodgers, 65.

For Selectman: Jed Peter Lipsky, 182; Arthur Somers, 1 (write-in).

For Town Clerk: Suzanne MacIver, 193.

For Assessor: John David O'Conner, 112; William Mielke, 85.

For Auditor: John Jefferson, 180.

For Board of Appeals: Georgiana O'Connell, 175.

For Cemetery Committee: John Ryder, 179.

For Finance Committee: W. Raymond Ward, 190 (three years).

For Finance Committee: Nicholas Wool, 103; Michele Miller, 94 (two years).

For Library Trustee: Robert Ensign, 150; Deborah Mielke, 139 (in a vote-for-two race).

For Park Commission: Frances Amidon, 108; Bonner McAllester, 91.

For Planning Board: Arthur Hastedt, 185.

For Tree Warden: Roger Tryon, 101; Daniel Whitbeck, 100; Harold Greene, 1 (write-in).

The New York Times

FOR JUNE

SUNDAY NEW YORK TIMES $6.60

SUNDAY BOSTON GLOBE $5.00

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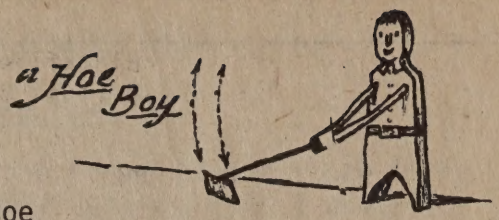

The Garden Hoe

Most people have a hoe in their tool shed, but not many use it to weed their gardens. In fact, most household hoes aren't in good enough shape to do the job effectively. Does your hoe have a good sharp edge on it? For many years I was a weed puller and although I enjoyed working in the garden it was time consuming. Then I decided to make the jump to market gardener, wondering all the while how I was ever going to keep up with the weeds. It all led to my meeting a hoe fanatic and learning what great tools they are. Now the weeds sometimes get away from me in the field because a couple of acres is quite a bit to hoe, but the house garden is a breeze; weeding need not be an awesome chore.

Hoes are best used when the weeds are so small you hardly know they are there. Generally speaking, you should go over your garden with your hoe four to five days before your eyes would've told you that the garden needed attention. The first time should be soon after planting. You may even feel that it is a waste of time because there isn't much to be killing, but that is the point; don't wait until you have to hack at the weeds. Use an easy slicing motion parallel to but just below the soil surface; don't chop deeply into the ground, especially around your plants or you will damage their roots. This will cut off the tiny weeds and dislodge the freshly germinated ones. If you do this once a week until July you will have the majority of weeds under control. By not allowing any growth above the ground you are essentially starving the roots and even the nastiest weeds like quack grass will give in.

Two last hopefully helpful hints: Hoe on a hot sunny day, not an overcast rainy day, or many weeds you have disturbed will reroot; and try one of the new "Action" or "Hula" hoes, as I find mine to be especially useful.

--Susan Sellew
Rawson Brook Farm

Our Neighbors

The planets Mars, Saturn and Jupiter will remain in the southern sky for a few more months. They are our neighbors, but down the road a ways. Our closest "sky neighbor" is the air ocean around us. It envelopes the earth like a diaphanous veil. The meteors that come streaking through it are burnt by it and become bright falling stars. At the upper edge of our veil the northern lights form after the sun has thrown a temper tantrum.

Next comes the Moon, faithful companion of our Earth, waxing and waning each month. Millions of miles away are the sun and planets forming our solar system. Our Earth is but one of the small planets tucked close to the sun together with Mercury, Venus and Mars.

The stars we see are lightyears away from us and are part of the star country in which we live and which we call the Milky Way, one of the billions of galaxies that make up the universe. We cannot see our neighbor countries Mexico and Canada, but in late summer and fall we can see our next door sky country, the Andromeda galaxy, a million and a half light years away.

--Loul McIntosh

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Blackflies, A Serious Problem

by
Bonner McAllester

"God in His wisdom
Made the fly
And then forgot
To tell us why."

(Ogden Nash)

We may never know why God made the fly, but in order to live comfortably with the many species of flies with whom we share the planet, we need to know as much as possible about them. One particularly persistent and difficult fly neighbor is the buffalo gnat, turkey gnat, or blackfly. There are, by some accounts, 29 different species of blackflies in this part of the country. Of these only seven attack humans, and only the females actually bite. Nevertheless, anyone venturing out of doors in rural New England during the month of May is likely to feel persecuted and punctured by the hordes of flies which bring a black cloud to an otherwise lovely spring day.

Blackflies, or Prosimilium hirpestes, are particularly numerous in rural areas near rivers or brooks. The eggs are laid in fast-moving water, rapids or waterfalls, the female fly darting repeatedly into the water to deposit her eggs just beneath the surface on rocks, leaves, or branches. There the larvae emerge and fasten themselves securely to the substrate by means of a circle of hooks on the tail end. They hang with their heads downstream and feed upon tiny protozoan water life which they sweep from the water with their two "mouth fans." Like caterpillars, they spin a cocoon of strong silky threads in which to pass the pupal stage. During the larval and pupal phases, oxygen is extracted from the rushing water and stored under the skin to form an air bubble. When development is complete, the adult fly bursts from the cocoon, pops to the surface inside the bubble, and flies off without ever having gotten wet. If it is a peaceful vegetarian male, it searches for the nearest nectar meal; if a female, she may drink nectar, but she will soon be out for blood.

The problems vested upon New Englanders by the hungry blackflies range from economic loss to frantic feelings of personal persecution and downright physical pain. In other parts of the country and of the world, the situation is considerably more serious. In Africa and parts of Central America, a species of blackfly aptly named Similium damnosum transmits a disease known as river blindness. In villages along rivers, where the fly populations are heaviest, people who are bitten contract a microscopic parasite the same way malaria is contracted through a mosquito bite. The effect of this parasite, over many years' time, is blindness. The problem is epidemic: the World Health Organization has estimated that in African countries, 200 million people are going blind because of this disease.

All over the world, scientists are studying blackfly habits in hopes of discovering a good means of control. There is a new possibility under consideration now, one which is familiar to gardeners who use biological controls for cabbage worms. This is a variety of Bacillus thuringiensis which kills blackfly larvae but seems not to harm other stream life. As with any new pesticide, this variety must be tested for a long period of time before it is made available to the fly-persecuted public.

"Oh the blackflies, the little blackflies
Always the blackflies no matter where I go.
I'll die with the blackflies pickin' my bones
In North Ontario, eye-o, in North Ontario." (Bill Staines)

LOCAL LORE (continued)

Indian Notes

In 1710, Etowohkoan, the father-in-law of our local Sheffield sachem, Umpachene, went to London with three Mohawk chiefs and a large portrait was painted of him. A quick look at Mahican activities in the 17th century reveals why he was so honored: Mahicans signed the first treaty between the Europeans and North American Indians; they conducted sixty years of successful military, diplomatic and trade relations with the powerful Mohawks; Mahicans accompanied LaSalle on his exploration of the Mississippi River. Here are some dates and highlights:

1609: the Mahicans befriended Henry Hudson when he sailed up the river to exchange beaver, otter and other furs for knives, hatchets and beads. This initiated the great Dutch and English fur trade.

1613: Mahicans, Delawares and Mohawks signed the first Indian-European trade treaty with the Van Tweenhuysen Company.

1620-1685: a period of alliances with and forays against the Mohawks.

1624: Fort Orange (Albany) established on the Hudson. The Mahicans controlled access to this trading center for forty years.

1669: Mahicans allied with eastern Algonquins under Chief Chickataubut of the Massachusetts tribe in large campaign against the Mohawks.

1681: Mahicans mediated a peace between the Iroquois, Miami and Ottowa, which shows their high prestige in the Middle West.

1681-1682: Mahicans accompanied LaSalle's expedition.

1690: smallpox epidemics reduced the Mahicans from approximately 4,000 to about 500 persons.

1694: Mahicans mediated a peace between the Shawnees and Iroquois.

This history helps explain why rich patrons in England helped support the town of Stockbridge when it became the center of the Mahican people from 1734-1784. It also explains why Shawnees, Delawares, Miamis, Iroquois and many other Indians came to join them there in those fifty years of hope for an educated, prosperous life of peace with white neighbors.

--David McAllester

Monterey's Schools

At the present time Center School in Monterey is the only one serving the community and that is now for the very young children. But did you know that at one time there were ten schools?

The first school house was built in 1766. By 1868 there were one hundred and fifty children attending school in nine school houses.

There was a decrease in school population in the next fifteen years and by 1883, one hundred and eleven children were in classes. One male and eight females, living with families near each school, were the teachers. The man earned $40 a month while the ladies received only an average of $19.93. The school budget was $873.48.

It is difficult to locate all the schools now, as several have been destroyed and others have been converted to residences. They could be found on Beartown Road near the old Arial home; at the Old Center; at Morses Corner, now the home of Mrs. and Mrs. Alexander; the present village building; Corashire School; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tryon's cottage; on Blue Hill Road near the Warners' property; at the top of Mt. Hunger; Polywog and on the road to New Marlboro.

--Sally Fijux

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WOMEN'S SERVICES CENTER

The Women's Services Center is announcing the opening of their South County Office for services to Battered Women in Great Barrington at the Visiting Nurse Association office located at 54 Castle Street.

Shelly Cullen, the South County representative, will be at the above office each Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to provide battered women support group, crisis intervention counseling, advocacy with court, police and social service agencies in South County, as well as provide community education.

The Battered Women's Program will be conducting a training session for new volunteers to staff our 24-hour hotline, provide emergency transportation as well as emergency shelter.

More information can be obtained by calling the Pittsfield office at 499-2425 or the Great Barrington office at 528-0130, Tuesday only.

DEMONSTRATE ON JUNE 12th (SATURDAY) CENTRAL PARK, N.Y.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Pearson,

I have spent a delightful hour perusing my Monterey News.

Reached page 15 and was pleased and surprised to find my comment on not making the News a "thick cumbersome paper." All of the comments appear to tacitly agree with mine; i.e., "I have no criticisms" among others.

Having always been intrigued by bats, I especially enjoyed the article about these misunderstood creatures.

On numerous occasions, with my husband and friends, we have endeavored to list alphabetically as many names of Indian tribes we know, so I also find "Indian Notes" interesting. This would be an interesting game for any group meeting. Naturally, the "Pequot," warlike tribe of the Algonquian once dominant in eastern Connecticut, should be on every list! Not only are they an Indian tribe, but many of us make our beds with sheets of the same name.

We applied our gypsy moth caterpillar tape, bought on sale, over the weekend and are happy to report that many members of our neighborhood have also done the same. (We have oak trees. Oh! Aluminum for rough bark.) The caterpillars are barely 1/4-inch long now, but anxious to eat anything in their path. Enclosed is a very informative article re gypsy moths. Last year I read that hair spray (that is correct) was good to encapsulate egg masses and, also bought on sale, it worked "like a charm." This year we have purchased a gypsy moth egg mass killer that I will use. I trust that everyone is cognizant that deciduous trees defoliated two years in a row are in danger of dying! With hand spraying last year we were able to maintain sufficient first growth leaves so our oaks were not taxed too much. I intend using a hand sprayer for all egg masses within reach, thereby concentrating the insecticide. Incidentally, our hemlock and fir trees were infested also and if we had not sprayed and "hand picked" the worms I am certain we would have lost some of them.

IMPORTANT: I find the "Assessors Report" laughable! It is the usual politicians rhetoric double talk! Monterey has used $9.66 of my money since January 23rd to collect interest that I lost! Please take note of small print, right-hand upper corner, of your tax bill! WHY, when the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1982, and ending June 30, 1982, are we subject to interest at 14% as of May 1st? My bill was postmarked April 30 a.m. 1982. I received the bill 2-3 days later and, if necessary, I will go to small claims court to fight any interest payment; lower right-hand corner indicates the bill will be subject to interest! No way will I pay 14% interest from May 1st when I didn't receive the bill until May 3-4!

From the preceding epistle you know I am a discriminate reader of the Monterey News and I commend you and the entire staff on your reporting. I am looking forward to a special "tax" report re interest in the next Monterey News.

Very truly yours,

Virginia Adenau
(Mrs. Charles Adenau)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Monterey News gratefully acknowledges the contributions this month of:

Joel Curtis; T. W. Cinque; Mrs. Don Halley; M/M Larry Suk; M/M Philip Lombardo; Ruth Milsner; Frank D'amato; Steve Carmichael, Dede Cummings; Berkshire Eagle; Karl Finger; Ruth Champigny; M/M Peter D. Wolf; M/M C. Henry Rydberg; Robert A. Hatch; M/M A. K. Wing III; Mattia F. Henley; M/M James McMahon; Faith B. Colt; Mrs. John Hayes Howard.

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BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

Police News

The Police Department has received the resignation of Jim Christie, effective May 1. Jim's business has kept him so very busy he has no time for himself.

The Department thanks Jim for his past 4½ years' service and wishes him the very best.

The Department has sent many letters to land owners about unregistered junk cars in their dooryards. We do have a Town By-Law which very clearly states "no junk cars." So we are asking that during the month of May we clean up, or, I must warn you, court action will be taken.

It does make our town look a lot nicer than looking like one big junk yard.

--Doug Lyman
Police Chief

Notes from the Monterey Post Office

To avoid delay in the delivery of your mail, be sure that the proper postage has been paid.

We now have post office boxes available for rent.

When mailing packages, do not use Scotch tape to seal the package closed. Scotch tape is not strong enough and will break or come unstuck.

Use Express Mail for fast next-day delivery.

CALENDAR

Country Dances

Saturday, May 22--Sheffield Grange, Joe Baker calling with Mountain Laurel. This program is for people with a little previous dancing experience. 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 12--Sheffield Grange with Mountain Laurel. Beginners and children welcome. 8:30 p.m.

Hootenanny

Saturday, June 5--Sheffield Grange. Everyone is welcome to come listen, sing along, or perform. Hosted this month by Bonner McAllester (528-9385). 8:00-11:00 p.m.

May 28-30--"The Zen of Seeing," a weekend workshop with Frederick Franck at the Albert Schweitzer Center. Limited registration. For information call 528-3124.

This summer at the Albert Schweitzer Center

A Universal Children's Garden--for young persons to design and plant flower and vegetable gardens, weekends until school ends, then weekly registration, four young persons each week. Join children throughout the world express themselves peacefully with respect for all living things. For information call 528-3124.

A Musical Journey-- for young persons ages 6-14. Areas covered will be Orff Schulwerk, folk dancing, voice training, songwriting, and performance. Every Tuesday, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., July 6-August 24. Faculty: Vivian Murray, Joan Boyer and Steve Rose. Enrollment limited. For information call 528-3124.

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1/2 page	15.00	1/16 page	2.00

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